

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 /028 W

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R 041732Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7732

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: GR, PINS, SOPN

SUBJECT: GOG STATEMENT ON RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PRESS

1. IN OFFICIAL STATEMENT MARCH 3 ISSUED BY OFFICE PRESS AND INFORMATION, GOG CRITICIZES ATHENS NEWSPAPERS FOR THEIR CONTINUING SPECULATION ABOUT SITUATION IN THE ARMED FORCES IN CONNECTION WITH FEBRUARY 24 CONSPIRACY. GOG ANNOUNCEMENT LABELLED ATHENS NEWSPAPER REPORTING ON THIS SUBJECT AS IRRESPONSIBLE AND INACCURATE, AND CHARGED THAT IT GENERATES "UNJUSTIFIED PUBLIC CONFUSION". GOG ADDED THAT "ONCE AGAIN" IT MUST URGE THE PRESS TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF ITS PROFESSION IN A RESPONSIBLE WAY.

2. GOG PIQUE AT CONTINUED FREE-WHEELING PRESS TREATMENT OF LAST WEEK'S ABORTIVE MILITARY CONSPIRACY REFLECTS MORE GENERALIZED OFFICIAL IRRITATION WITH IRRESPONSIBILITY OF GREEK PRESS. FOR EXAMPLE, IN A RECENT PUBLIC SPEECH UNDER SECRETARY FOR PRESS AND INFORMATION LAMBRIAS SCORED GREEK PRESS AS THE MOST "YELLOW" AND IRRESPONSIBLE IN ALL EUROPE AND NORTH AMERICA.

3. AS DEPARTMENT IS AWARE, ATHENS NEWSPAPERS HAVE THEIR OWN RULES OF JOURNALISM, FREQUENTLY MIXING FACTUAL REPORTING WITH OPINION, OFTEN PRESENTING PARTIAL COVERAGE OF AN EVENT IN ORDER TO SUPPORT VIEWPOINT OR BIAS OF PUBLISHER, AND OFTEN REPLAYING OR SPECULATING ON FALSE

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REPORTS EVEN AFTER OFFICIAL CLARIFICATION OR DENIAL HAS

BEEN ISSUED. LONG-TIME READERS OF THE GREEK PRESS HAVE  
DETECTED A MARKED IMPROVEMENT IN ITS HANDLING OF DOMESTIC  
NEWS, BUT THE RULE OF THE JUNGLE PREVAILS IN FOREIGN  
REPORTING, PARTLY BECAUSE GREEK FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS  
ARE USUALLY POLITICAL LOBBYISTS OF ONE KIND OR ANOTHER,  
AND PARTLY BECAUSE FOREIGN AFFAIRS ARE INVARIABLY TREATED  
AS AN ASPECT OF GREEK DOMESTIC AFFAIRS. IMPROVEMENTS  
HERE WILL BE SLOW AND BY NO MEANS SURE.  
KUBISCH

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, NEWSPAPERS, POLITICAL SITUATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 04 MAR 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** SmithRJ  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** SmithRJ  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
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**Review Date:** 03 JUN 2003  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** GOG STATEMENT ON RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PRESS  
**TAGS:** PINS, SOPN, GR  
**To:** STATE  
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